

PHARMACY BOARD[657]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Board of Pharmacy hereby amends Chapter 7, "Hospital Pharmacy Practice," Iowa Administrative Code.

The amendments require that hospital pharmacies utilize a unit dose dispensing system, to the extent possible, for the distribution of drugs to patients in a hospital. The amendments provide for the pharmacist in charge to determine situations in which utilization of unit dose dispensing is not possible due to the dosage form or delivery system of the drug and require the pharmacist in charge to develop policies and procedures that identify those situations. The proposed amendments also require the pharmacist in charge to develop policies and procedures regarding the use of patient-owned drugs brought into the institution including procedures for identifying the drugs and ensuring the integrity of the drugs prior to permitting the use of such drugs by the patient.

Requests for waiver or variance of the discretionary provisions of these rules will be considered pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the July 1, 2009, Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 7912B**. The Board received written comments regarding the proposed amendments, primarily supporting the amendments. Comments also addressed drug accountability and integrity concerns when a patient is allowed to bring and use patient-owned drugs during the patient's stay in the institution. The adopted amendments differ from those published under Notice. Subrule 7.8(7) is amended to require that policies and procedures regarding the use of patient-owned drugs brought into the institution to include procedures for the security of those drugs.

The amendments were approved during the August 17, 2009, meeting of the Board of Pharmacy.

These amendments will become effective on October 28, 2009.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 155A.13 and 155A.36.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend paragraph **7.8(1)"a"** as follows:

a. Hospitals shall utilize a unit dose dispensing system pursuant to rule 657—22.1(155A). All drugs dispensed by the pharmacist for administration to patients shall be in single unit or unit dose packages if practicable unless the dosage form or drug delivery device makes it impracticable to package the drug in a unit dose or single unit package. The need for nurses to manipulate drugs prior to their administration shall be minimized.

(1) The pharmacist in charge shall establish policies and procedures that identify situations when drugs may be dispensed in other than unit dose or single unit packages outside the unit dose dispensing system.

(2) The need for nurses to manipulate drugs prior to their administration shall be minimized.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 7.8(7) as follows:

7.8(7) Drugs brought into the institution. Policies The pharmacist in charge shall determine those circumstances when patient-owned drugs brought into the institution may be administered to a hospital patient and shall establish policies and procedures shall be established governing the use and security of drugs brought into the institution. Procedures shall address identification of the drug and methods for ensuring the integrity of the product prior to permitting its use by the patient. The use of patient-owned drugs shall be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 9/23/09.